THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Commercial development of Railway land has been taken up for the last four years with a view to raise internal resources. To give focussed attention to the scheme, Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) has been set up. 13 sites all over Railways have been entrusted to the Authority recently.

(c) Two sites at Vishakhapatnam have been entrusted to Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA), Funds generated out of this will be utilized for Railway projects.

Development of Patan-Bhiladi missing link

2093. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal received from the Government of Gujarat for development of Patan-Bhiladi missing link;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Rail Vikas Nigam Limited is going to start this work; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF-STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Government of Gujarat has requested to take up work on Patan-Bhiladi new line. This work has since been defrozen and preliminary works are being made to take up the work.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Plantation of trees along rail lines

†2094. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT:
SHRI SURYAKANT ACHARYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways has any scheme for plantation of trees on either side of the railway lines in the cities; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether there is any such scheme for Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Surat or Rajkot?.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir. There is no specific scheme for plantation of trees on either side of Railway lines in cities. Railways have a general policy for doing plantation on vacant land.

(b) No, Sir. However, a small stretch of land admeasuring 1,13,506 Sqm has been given to Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation for plantation.

Lack of toilets due to design of trains

†2095. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the design of some of the trains have been made in such way that toilets have not been provided in them;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that common people are facing much difficulties/incorfvenience due to lack of toilets; and

(c) if so, the justification for not providing such basic facilities in the trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) By design, MEMU/DEMU/DMU coaches do not have toilets. As a matter of policy, these are meant for journeys up to 160 Kilometres or 4 hours. In case the toilet-less trains are to run for more than 160 Kilometres or a journey time of more than 4 hours, a halt of 30 minutes is provided at an intermediate and suitable station for the convenience of the passengers.

Survey or Kadapa-Bangalore rail line

2096. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact the survey of new railway line from Kadapa to Bangalore has been completed;

(b) if so, the details and outcome of the above proposal;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.